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PULPWOOD

production & consumption
in the central states

1960

Joseph J. Mendel



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JOSEPH J. MENDEL began his Forest Service career in 1946 on the Forest Survey of the northeastern states. After 6 years of aerial photo interpretation and field work he was transferred to Washington, D. C. on a special photo interpretation project conducted in cooperation with the U.S. Air Force. Changing assignment but not location in 1957, Mendel worked as an analyst in Foreign Forestry until 1958 when he came to the Central States Station as Forest Survey Representative. A native of Wisconsin, Joe received his B.S. in forestry at the University of Michigan. In addition, he did some graduate work in forestry and engineering at the Universities of Michigan and Cincinnati.

Central States Forest Experiment Station, U.S. Dept. of Agriculture
Forest Service, 111 Old Federal Building, Columbus 15, Ohio

R. D. Lane, Director

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The production and consumption¹ of pulpwood in the Central States maintained the steady upward trend of the past 6 years and established new record highs in 1960. Production rose to 491,603 cords, an increase of 37 percent over the previous high of 1959. The gross value delivered at the mill of the 1960 harvest is calculated to be \$6,671,000. Considering that this amount is earned largely by timber growers and woods workers, pulpwood plays an important role in the economy of numerous rural communities. The consumption of pulpwood, which generally parallels production, increased by 114,214 cords or almost 32 percent over that of 1959 for a new high of 473,302 cords.

In addition to the round pulpwood used, approximately 5,000 tons of wood residue were consumed; less than 1 percent of the pulpwood consumed by Central States mills.

All States Make Gains in Production

Indiana registered an increase in production of more than 95 percent, largely due to conversion of two mills to the use of wood during the past 1½ years. Kentucky, a state without any wood-using pulpmills, had a gain of 48 percent in production indicating an increase in movement of pulpwood to mills outside the State. Gains in other central states ranged between 11 and 41 percent over the 1959 production (table 1).

Ohio again was the largest pulpwood producer in the Central States, accounting for more than 43 percent of the total volume produced.

¹ "Production" is defined as "the harvest of pulpwood from timberland" whereas "consumption" is defined as "the utilization of pulpwood by mills."

TABLE 1.—1960 PULPWOOD PRODUCTION BY STATES

State	Conifers	Species groups			Total	Percent	Percent	Value ²				
		Hardwoods		Total								
		Hard	Soft									
Ohio	1,458	151,820	61,081	214,359	43.6	+29.7	2,892					
Illinois	2,239	20,687	84,728	107,654	21.9	+32.3	1,408					
Kentucky	32,957	38,563	5,043	76,563	15.6	+48.0	1,050					
Indiana	1,213	29,099	25,393	55,705	11.3	+95.5	767					
Iowa	100	8,020	15,376	23,496	4.8	+11.2	339					
Missouri	1,836	3,304	8,686	13,826	2.8	+41.4	215					
Total	39,803	251,493	200,307	491,603	100.0	+37.4	6,671					

¹ Standard cord=4x4x8 feet of stacked bolts, 0.8 long cord or unit, 4,500 pounds of soft hardwoods, 5,000 pounds of hard hardwoods or conifers.

² Based on 1959 reported prices.

Hard Hardwoods Maintain Lead in Production

For the second consecutive year, hard hardwoods² maintained the lead in pulpwood produced. Increasing by 68,540 cords or 37 percent over 1959, hard hardwoods now represent more than half the pulpwood production. Ohio alone produced more than three-fifths of the hard hardwoods.

Soft hardwoods³, which increased by 48,770 cords or 32 percent over 1959, accounted for almost 41 percent of the 1960 production. Illinois and Ohio produced almost three-fourths of the 1960 soft-hardwood volume.

Coniferous pulpwood, principally pine, increased by 16,532 cords or 71 percent over that produced in 1959 and now represents 8 percent of the total 1960 pulpwood production. Kentucky alone produced 82 percent of the coniferous pulpwood.

Ohio Again Major Consumer

All of the consumer states in the Central States shared in the increased consumption of pulpwood during 1960. Ohio, however, increased its lead in consumption by using almost 56 percent of the total in comparison to 50 percent in 1959 (table 2).

² Hard hardwoods include such species as oak, ash, hard maple, and beech.

³ Soft hardwoods include such species as basswood, yellow-poplar, aspen, cottonwood, willow, and soft maple.

TABLE 2.—1960 PULPWOOD CONSUMPTION BY STATES

State	Mills	Species groups						Value	
		Conifers		Hardwoods		Total			
		Number	Cords	Hard	Soft	Cords	Percent		
Ohio	6	718	196,170	67,150	264,038	55.8	3,530		
Illinois	8	7,802	13,445	84,579	105,826	22.4	1,423		
Kentucky	0	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Indiana	2	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Iowa	3	100	44,294	59,044	103,438	21.8	1,476		
Missouri	1	—	—	—	—	—	—		
Total	20	8,620	253,909	210,773	473,302	100.0	6,429		

¹Combined to prevent disclosure of individual plant consumption.

Gain in Hard-Hardwood Consumption

In 1960 the pulpmills of the Central States consumed more hardwoods than were produced. The resulting need to import pulpwood indicates that there may be additional opportunities in certain sections of this region for timber growers to share in the ever-increasing pulpwood dollars.

Hard hardwoods made up almost 54 percent of the total pulpwood consumed in comparison to slightly more than 51 percent in 1959. Ohio alone accounted for 77 percent of the hard hardwood consumed.

Soft hardwoods represented more than 44 percent of the total consumption. Illinois was the leading consumer of this species group, accounting for 40 percent of the total.

Despite the gain in coniferous pulpwood production, consumption of these species decreased to less than 2 percent of the total pulpwood consumption. Only about 20 percent of the coniferous pulpwood produced in the Central States is utilized by mills in the region. Most of this is used in Illinois mills.

Exports Exceed Imports

Interregional shipments of pulpwood amounted to 50,107 cords; an increase of 2,768 cords or almost 6 percent over that of 1959. Outgoing shipments, which were largely coniferous pulpwood, exceeded incoming shipments by 18,301 cords. This was a reversal of the situation that existed in 1959 when imports exceeded exports.

Again most of the 15,903 cords of incoming pulpwood were received from Wisconsin (82 percent). The remainder came from West Virginia, Tennessee, and Michigan. Illinois mills were the principal importers, ac-

counting for more than half the total. Approximately 67 percent of the imported pulpwood was soft hardwoods, 17 percent was hard hardwoods, and 16 percent conifers.

Outgoing shipments of pulpwood increased by almost 50 percent over that of 1959 and now total 32,204 cords. All of this outgoing pulpwood was produced in two of the Central States: Kentucky produced 96 percent and Ohio the remaining 4 percent. Conifers constituted almost 99 percent of the outgoing shipments. Five mills shared in these shipments. Approximately 60 percent of the pulpwood went to mills located south of the Central States and the remaining 40 percent to mills in the East.

County Data on Pulpwood Production

To supplement and keep current forest survey data on the timber resource, it is necessary to obtain detailed data on timber cutting. Therefore in the 1960 canvass, pulpwood production data were collected by individual counties (fig. 1). As this information is assembled over a period of years, it will depict trends in local timber supply situations. Areas in which there are opportunities for increased timber harvesting will be revealed as well as areas in which cutting is heavy.

The data presented in this report were obtained from an annual mail canvass of pulpmills in the Central States Region (fig. 2).

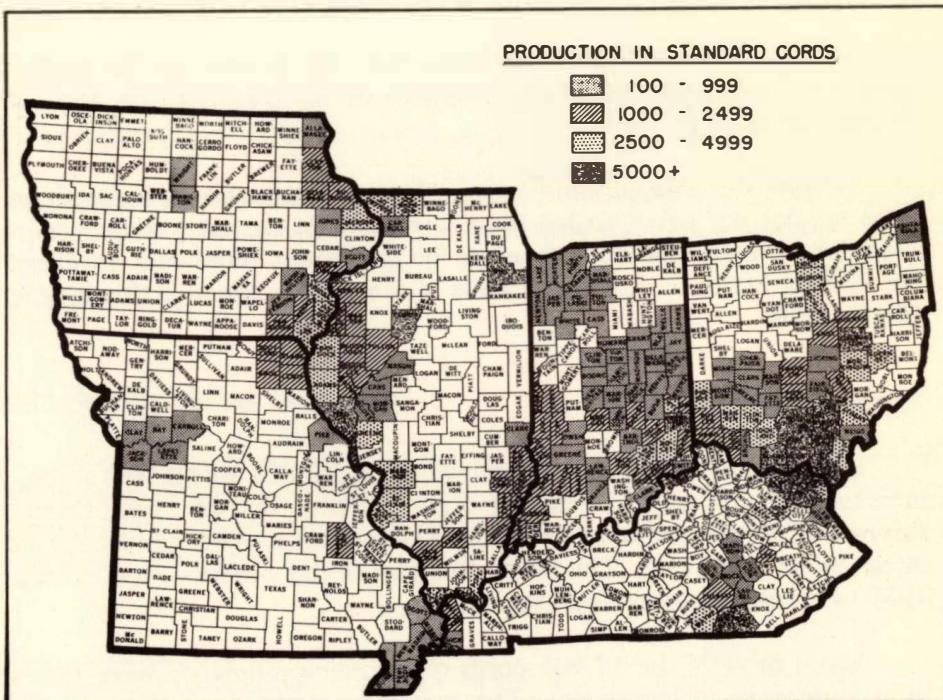


Figure 1. — Pulpwood production by counties, 1960.

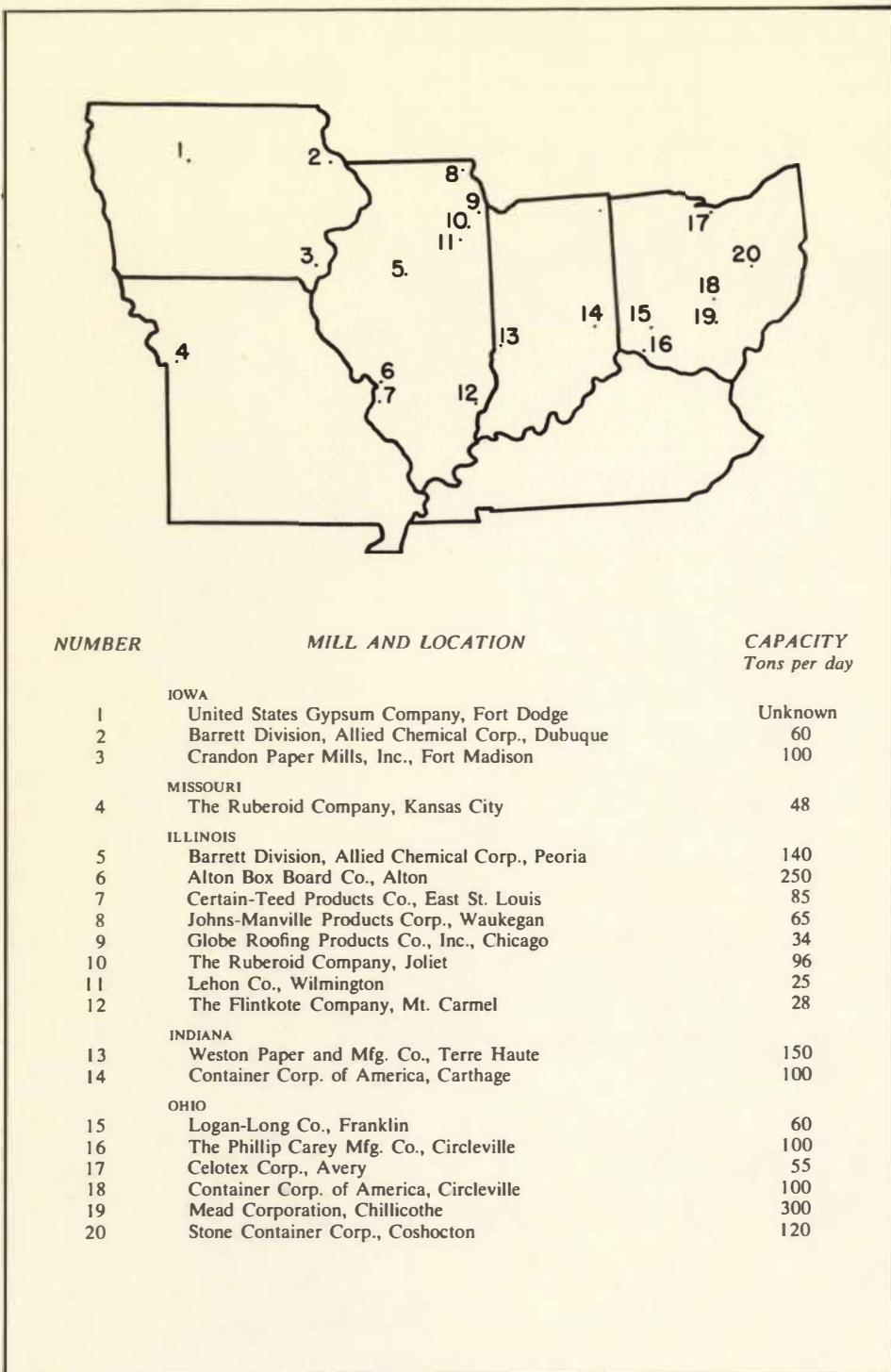


Figure 2. — Wood-using mills of the Central States.

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